



**United States Attorney's Office  
District of Columbia**

**Channing D. Phillips  
Acting United States Attorney**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Guilty Pleas Entered in Connection with \$1.6 Million Counterfeiting Conspiracy**

***– Two Foreign Nationals are the final two defendants to admit  
responsibility capping a three-year government investigation –***

WASHINGTON - Naibeye Koumbairia, 35, of the District of Columbia, and William Glay, Jr., 33, of Germantown, Maryland, entered guilty pleas today to all of the charges in an indictment filed against them last year charging them in connection with a wide-ranging conspiracy to counterfeit checks drawn on the accounts of more than ninety businesses and individuals, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips, U.S. Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Jeffrey Irvine, and Montgomery County Chief of Police J. Thomas Manger. Both defendants pleaded guilty before Judge John D. Bates in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Sentencing in the case has been continued until December 21, 2009.

According to charging documents, Koumbairia and Glay directed a large network of conspirators who worked from 1999 through 2007 to systematically cash high-quality counterfeit checks in the D.C. area. The conspiracy consisted of insiders (such as corrupt bank employees and a corrupt accountant), check printers, check passers, and other "recruiters" who identified people addicted to drugs or in need of money and convinced them to pass counterfeit checks and share in the criminal proceeds. The corrupt insiders provided Koumbairia, Glay, and other conspirators with copies of genuine checks and bank account information. Using that information, Koumbairia and Glay created counterfeit checks that were passed by other conspirators at banks, retailers, and check-cashing establishments.

On March 6, 2007, law enforcement officers with the U.S. Secret Service and the Montgomery County Police Department raided the residences of Koumbairia and Glay and recovered more than 400 images of counterfeit checks purporting to be drawn on the accounts of customers with Sun Trust, Bank of America, M&T Bank (formerly Providence Bank), AM South Bank, Wachovia Bank, United Bank, Branch Banking & Trust Co., and CitiBank. The U.S. Secret Service investigated all of the images of counterfeit checks recovered from Koumbairia and Glay's residences and found more than \$1.6 million worth of counterfeit checks that had been passed in the D.C. area by conspirators working with Koumbairia and Glay. Those

counterfeit checks were passed on the accounts of more than ninety individuals and businesses.

Koumbairia pleaded guilty to sixteen counts charging him with conspiracy, wire fraud, bank fraud, and uttering the securities of a private entity. Glay pleaded guilty to four counts charging him with conspiracy, wire fraud, and bank fraud. At sentencing, both defendants will face possible sentences of up to thirty years' incarceration. Koumbairia, who was born in Chad, and Glay, who was born in Liberia, acknowledged in pleading guilty that they may face possible deportation as a result of their criminal activities.

The guilty pleas by Koumbairia and Glay represent the fourteenth and fifteenth guilty pleas obtained by law enforcement in connection with this three-year long investigation into counterfeit check-passing in the D.C. area. A grand jury indicted seven conspirators in connection with this case, all of whom have now entered guilty pleas.

In announcing today's guilty pleas, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips, U.S. Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Irvine, and Montgomery County Chief of Police Manger commended the outstanding investigative work of Special Agents Ryan Petrsek, Jesse Barnwanajakul, Jonas Balciunas, Stephen Kopeck, Jennifer Anderson, Chad Brewer and Shane Burroughs of the U.S. Secret Service, Detectives Susan Mercer, Debbie Clark, and Debbie Tupa of the Montgomery County Police Department, and Forensic Examiner James W. Brown of the Drug Enforcement Agency. They also commended the assistance provided in this case by Paralegals Jeannette Fennell, Mary Treanor, Margaret McCabe, Sarah Reis, and Carolyn Cody, Legal Assistants Jamasee Lucas, Priscilla Hutson, Latoya Wade, Latoya Davenport, Jacqueline Akyea, and Student Intern Sierra Tate. Lastly, they praised the work of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Debra Long-Doyle, Scharn Robinson, and John W. Borchert, who are prosecuting this case.

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